

# THE CONTROL ROOM

by Nick Leather

# Episode One of Three

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## 3 <u>INT. KITCHEN / MAVER HOUSE / BALFRON / STIRLINGSHIRE - NIGHT -</u> <u>FEBRUARY 1999</u>

Through the door to the back room, a WHI RRING sound can be heard, a low light giving glimpses of those beyond-

The woman from the photographs is in a medical bed, the man helping her adjust her position, attempting to ease her obvious discomfort, neither aware of the boy's presence.

He stands there for a moment, then - still in his pyjamas slips his feet into his trainers and moves to the back door.

4 <u>EXT. BACK YARD / MAVER HOUSE / BALFRON / STI RLI NGSHI RE -</u> <u>NI GHT - FEBRUARY 1999</u>

> As he closes it behind him, the WHIRRING is snuffed out, and the boy crosses the small yard, before finding a gap in the hedge, and... crawling under it-

# 5 <u>EXT. TALL TREES / CHRI STMAS TREE FARM / BALFRON /</u> <u>STI RLI NGSHI RE - NI GHT - FEBRUARY 1999</u>

iO IN! A wall of trees faces hiO s

MAN IN HIS TWENTIES (O.S.) Awh, pal. Thankyou pal. Thankyou. GABE That's OK. How's Mum? MAN IN HIS TWENTIES (O.S.)

Alright?

A voice is heard, off, indistinct.

GABE What did she say?

MAN IN HIS TWENTIES (O.S.) She said, "this fucking car".

As Gabe LAUGHS, a SI REN is heard approaching.

GABE

OK, the afterbirth should deliver soon. I'm gonna leave you with the Ambulance team now But I'll be holding a good thought for you. All three of you...

The voice is heard, off, again, then-

MAN IN HIS TWENTIES (O.S.) What's your name, pal?

GABE Uh... Gabe, Gabriel.

There's an exchange, off, once more, before-

MAN IN HIS TWENTIES (O.S.) Eh, eh, he likes it. (to his son, off) Hallo Gabriel. Welcome to the world. I'm your da...

The call ENDING, Gabe EXHALES quietly.

DANNI (of the 'naming') First time?

Gabe nods, then - as Jat approaches Danni - Leigh puts her hand on Gabe's back-

LEIGH (to Gabe) Right mister - break. (to Danni & Jat) Hey, d'you move in then? DANNI

Yeah. LEIGH Well? What's it like? JAT Perfect. And, as Danni smiles, Jat kisses the top of her head, then-GABE I... I'm alright Leigh... He looks at her, Leigh looking back at him before-LEIGH

(warns) One more... EMERGENCY OPERATOR TWD (O.S.) Hello Glasgow, this is 07700 900793 calling from an out of range of service provider...

GABE

Alright, thankyou...

A woman of around thirty is heard HYPERVENTILATING, Gabe looking at his screen, an approximate location identified-

Tradeston, Glasgow, nearest postcode G5 8EK

\*

Still nothing.

## GABE Hello, are you there?

Another pause, then-

WOMAN OF AROUND THERTY (O.S.) Oh my God, he's dead. (beat) I've killed him..

And Gabe sits there for a moment, before... putting the call on hold, and-

GABE Anthony... Anthony!

Danni, Ross and some of the other handlers look round, Jat and the rest of the dispatchers looking across, Anthony switching back to Gabe's call, as... Jat starts to TYPE too-

Exact location??

Gabe reads Jat's words, then inputs a '90', before taking the call back off hold, and-

GABE

Hello?

No reply.

GABE If you give me the exact location, we might still be able to do something...

No reply.

GABE Listen. Listen to me. Forget everything else. We need to know exactly where you are.

WOMAN OF AROUND THIRTY (O.S.)

GABE

RECORDING OF WOMAN AROUND THIRTY Gabo? Gabo, is that you?

And a pause, then-

RECORDI NG OF GABE Do I know you?

As the DIALLING TONE is heard, Lennie ends the recording.

BRECK We'd love you to answer that one for us Gabriel. The phone was unregistered. We don't have anything else.

GABE I... I don't think I do.

BRECK If she knows you, presumably you know her?

Gabe blinks - why?

BRECK (to Leigh and Anthony) What do you call him?

They look at her - huh? She nods at Gabe.

LEI GH (shrugs) "Gabe".

ANT HONY

And, as Breck considers this, Lennie steps in-

LENNI E "I'm hol ding a good thought for you"?

Gabe looks at her. Lennie turns to Breck for permission to continue. Breck nods, and Lennie skips back in the file to-

RECORDING OF GABE I'm holding a good thought for you, I swear.

RECORDING OF WOMAN AROUND THIRTY What?

RECORDING OF GABE

What?

RECORDING OF WOMAN AROUND THIRTY Oh, God. . .

Lennie pauses it-

#### LENNI E

It seemed to prompt her.

Breck nods. Lennie looking pleased with herself, Breck swallowing her irritation and resuming control-

BRECK

You'd been speaking to her for... what? Two, three minutes by then? But she didn't realise she knew you, till you said those words.

GABE

I guess.

BRECK Do you normally say that to people?

### GABE

All the time...

BRECK It's someone who associates it with you, knows you well. But... not well enough to know you work heGABE

(shrugs) I moved in with my uncle in Glasgow when I was, like, sixteen...

BRECK

We know this is hard, Gabriel. But a woman just confessed to *killing* someone, in broad daylight, less than five miles from here. We can pinpoint the call to the Lochran Heights development and around the same time other calls were made - residents saying they'd heard shouting, screaming. But at the moment there's no body, no killer. And you might be able to change that. Who could it be?

GABE I honestly don't -- ('KNOW)

BRECK Try and think. Think back.

GABE What? Through every single woman I've basically ever known?

Anthony raises an eyebrow Leigh stares at Gabe too.

GABE I don't mean like -- ('THAT')

BRECK

Yes. Every. Single. One.

Leigh looks away uncomfortably. But Breck glances at Lennie, and she skips back in the file once more, then-

RECORDING OF WOMAN AROUND THIRTY

He's dead.

BRECK Listen Gabriel.

RECORDING OF GABE What's your name?

BRECK Listen to her voice.

Gabe closes his eyes and focuses on it completely, almost trying to scan his mental hard-drive.

RECORDING OF WOMAN AROUND THIRTY I'm not gonna tell you that.

Lennie stops the file once more, Breck staring at Gabe, and there's a long pause, then... he opens his eyes suddenly and stares back at her, before-

# GABE

Sorry.

Breck deflates.

GABE I mean, you're right - s'pose I do know her, it is... familiar, but...

BRECK Go home. Talk to your friends. Work it out. I'll call you later...

## 10 INT. CAR / GABE'S HOUSE / PARTICK / GLASGOW - DAY ONE

Gabe's sitting in the passenger seat as Leigh pulls up outside a large old student-style townhouse. In the back are two child seats.

> LEIGH You don't need to come in tomorrow

GABE

Leigh nods, then-

GABE Feel like such a dick.

LEI GH

Why?

GABE I should know

LEIGH Don't think I'd know Some random voice? Out of context? From any point in my life? Some guy who I might have just once... I mean, not that... no more than...

Her voice trails away and ... she LAUGHS awkwardly, suddenly

He makes a SWI RLING gesture round his head with his hands, indicating the extent to which his brain is struggling to cope with the call.

# LEI GH

Yeah?

# GABE

Yes.

She puts his hand on his knee supportively. He smiles at her. And this time he does get out.

## 11 <u>EXT. GABE'S HOUSE / PARTICK / GLASGOW - DAY ONE</u>

A man a few years younger than Gabe PULLS UP behind Leigh and gets out of his car, AirPod in, preoccupied by a call. This is Tahir Kosa, known as

GABE Oh... sorry, I... No, I mean - you wanna watch? Oh... oh, GABE Oh... I AN I AN Aye?

Gabe nods. And I an holds the door open.

## 20 <u>INT. LIVING ROOM / MAVER HOUSE / BALFRON / STIRLINGSHIRE -</u> <u>EVENING ONE</u>

A short while later, Gabe's on the settee and lan in his armchair, Gabe looking at lan, and lan the TV - his eyes only flitting to Gabe momentarily as he responds-

> GABE How's your leg? I AN Ah, y' know GABE

What?

IAN 'tis what it is.

Pause, then-

GABE You seen Uncle Charlie?

I AN

Aye.

GABE He alright?

IAN Hasn't been arrested for a while...

GABE Need to get the rest of my stuff from his garage.

IAN Don't bother. Never uses it.

Pause, then-

The man continues past, joining a woman of around the same age. This is *JOAN* Tolmie. And the moment their lights have moved far enough away-

Sam heads in the opposite direction, still without saying a word-

A boy a school year or two older emerging from the trees further along, jerking his head at her to follow, then moving on. And Sam glances back towards Gabe, before... heading after the boy, taking his hand and fading into the black-

Gabe turning back towards the distant light of his house-

## 24 <u>INT. GABE'S ROOM / MAVER HOUSE / BALFRON / STIRLINGSHIRE -</u> EVENING ONE

The present-day Gabe now staring out of the window at the same trees, unicorn-page in hand, until-

Gabe half-smiles at him for a moment, then-

IAN It's half-time.

lan smiles back, and now Gabe properly smiles too. And lan joins him at the window, both staring out, until-

GABE

You... you don't know what happened to Sam Tolmie, do you?

I AN

What?

GABE Samantha Tolmie, y'know-- ('WHO LIVED AT THE FARM?')

IAN What you talking about her for?

GABE No reason, just...

I AN

What?

GABE Just wondered if -- ('YOU KNEW?')

I AN

Why would you possibly even wonder?

GABE

Where did she go when her nan and grandad gave up the lease on the tree farm?

IAN Is this why you're here?

GABE

IAN To ask about Samantha Tolmie?!

GABE

No.

No.

IAN What is wrong with you, boy?

GABE Fuck's that supposed to mean?

GABE She in though? BARMAID On from Lunch tomorrow GABE Aye, is she upstairs though?

BARMAID She won't come down.

GABE Could you pass on a message? I'm a... a friend from school.

BARMAID I'll pass it on tomorrow

Gabe SIGHS. And there's a pause, then he looks round the bar till his eyes

# ti NAAl IC‡ r& !frs

BA NAALD

S

GABE You... you alright, big man?

ROBBO What you doing here?

GABE

Just going past, and... saw Eilidh's name above the door and --('WONDERED IF SHE WAS IN?')

ROBBO

What?

Pause, then-

GABE I've been looking for a number. For Sam Tolmie? And I wondered if Eilidh still --('HAD ONE FOR HER?')

ROBBO You taking the piss?

GABE No, no - I didn't know you and Eilidh were... ('TOGETHER')

A nerve in Robbo's cheek twitches. Gabe LAUGHS nervously-

GABE

I didn't know, I swear.

Robbo steps towards him

## ROBBO (to Gabe) You ever step through that door again and I will fucking kill ya...

Gabe nods, and... Robbo lets go, retreating into the flat, Gabe turning back to Eilidh. And now she looks back at him her face a picture of pity as she shoves the door SHUT-

## 28A INT. CAR / STI RLI NGSHI RE - NI GHT ONE

Gabe driving home later, checking the time, his breath shallow

BRECK (O.S.) Witnesses, plenty of them Heard a man arguing with a woman.

GABE (into phone) And then?

BRECK (O.S.)

A distressed female - about five six-seven, blonde hair, round the same age as you - with what appeared to be blood on her, running from the scene later...

Gabe doesn't respond though - he just puts Tah's car keys back into the bag.

BRECK (O.S.) Hallo? Are you there?

And Gabe ZIPS the bag up again, then-

GABE Could be anyone...

And, as he stands there... Tah sweeps in and UNLOCKS his door, before grabbing his stuff, giving Gabe a thumbs up in thanks and exiting into his room, completely oblivious, Gabe remaining rooted to the spot, the phone still to his ear...

29 OM TTED

## 30 <u>EXT. STREET / STRATHCLYDE AMBULANCE SERVICE ACC / HILLINGTON</u> / <u>GLASGOW - DAY TWO</u>

The following morning, back in his dark green call handler uniform, Gabe walks along the ste e5the" iON

### 32 <u>INT. CONTROL ROOM TWO / STRATHCLYDE AMBULANCE SERVICE ACC /</u> HILLINGTON / GLASGOW - DAY TWO

He enters, Anthony heading towards him from the other direction-

ANTHONY Come on then, lets see this list of old flames...

LEIGH (approaching) Ignore him Gabe. Anthony's list of the significant women in his life'd only have his mum on it.

ANTHONY I'd never forget an ex...

ROSS I bet they're all tryna forget you...

Anthony pulls a face. Gabe puts his phone on his desk and sits down. Anthony takes over from Bex. Leigh nods at Gabe-

LEI GH

Y' OK?

And, as both she, Ross and Bex all look at him supportively, Gabe's voice starts to be heard, over-

GABE (O.S.) Ambulance Emergency - is the patient breathing?

# 33 <u>INT. HANDLER DESKS / CONTROL ROOM TWD / STRATHCLYDE AMBULANCE</u> <u>SERVI CE ACC / HILLI NGTON / GLASGOW - DAY TWD</u>

Some time later, he's on a call again, the room a buzz of life and death once more, Danni now on the other side of him-

BOY OF AROUND TWELVE (O.S.) I don't know, cannae see from here!

GABE Are you with them?

BOY OF AROUND TWELVE (O.S.) Aye, but I'm still on the roof and he's... he's down there.

GABE Has somebody fallen off a roof?

BOY OF AROUND TWELVE (O.S.) Through it! Gabe inputs '4-7', then-GABE Is anyone else there? BOY OF AROUND TWELVE (O.S.) Nah, it's shut, it's -- ('CLOSED DOWW') GABE OK, don't move, we're gonna --('GET A VEHICLE OUT TO YOU') BOY OF AROUND TWELVE (O.S.) I'm not waiting, I'm getting down... GABE Stay where you are. BOY OF AROUND TWELVE (O.S.) I'm meant to be at school... GABE They'll understand. BOY OF AROUND TWELVE (O.S.) They never undQ Y ROU i q

Gabe ducking down and changing his route in response, taking care to continue unnoticed.

39 OM TTED

#### 40 <u>EXT. CHRISTMAS TREE FARM / BALFRON / STIRLINGSHIRE - DAY TWO</u>

Pushing through the branches, until... he sees something-

A long-abandoned and boarded up stone-built bothy, once used as a resting place for workers, its walls now blackened, roof half-gone.

And he stares at it.

# 41 <u>EXT. BOTHY / BALFRON / STI RLI NGSHI RE - DAY TWO</u>

Gabe heads towards a door, but... it's boarded up so thoroughly that he continues around the building, past the more loosely-boarded windows, until he gets to an entrance on the other side. And though that's also secured, the boards there are part-broken. He pulls at them, but they hold firm He tries with both hands, and... they start to come away.

# 42 <u>INT. BOTHY / BALFRON / STIRLINGSHIRE - DAY TWO</u>

He enters-

Drips from a past downpour DROP down from the hole in the roof, the outside world taking longer to penetrate here. A cast iron table and chairs sit in the centre, amateur graffiti crisscrossing the soot-smeared walls, a melted clock on one of them

Gabe crosses to the still-boarded up door on the far side. He reaches up, then... runs his palm along the brass plaque above it, wiping away the soot like it's a palimpsest,

# 43 <u>EXT. CHRI STMAS TREE FARM / BALFRON / STI RLI NGSHI RE - DAY -</u> <u>FEBRUARY 1999</u>

The young Gabe makes his way through the trees in the same direction Sam and the boy exited, until he sees-

A grizzled-looking man in his forties pruning the trees beyond, whilst having a conversation with the same boy, another girl - around the same age - alongside them. This is BILLY Robinson, his son the YOUNG ROBBO and the YOUNG EILIDH.

But as Gabe watches, hidden, he hears a branch SNAP behind him and he turns and sees-

YOUNG SAM

What you doing?

The young Sam is staring right at him Gabe doesn't answer though, just blinks back at her, until-

YOUNG ROBBO (O.S.)

Who's this?

Robbo and Eilidh have nowleft Billy and are walking towards them

YOUNG EILIDH He's the new boy. He's moved into --

# YOUNG ROBBO (to Gabe, interrupting) You think you can just... walk around here?

Robbo pushes Gabe in the chest... Gabe staggering back, now surrounded.

YOUNG ROBBO You think this is... open to <u>anyone</u>?

Robbo shoves him again. Gabe looks at Sam But she looks away.

YOUNG EILIDH Awh, Ieave him Robbo...

Robbo, however, pushes Gabe once more, knocking him down, before... putting his arm round Sam pulling her towards him possessively, then exiting into the trees-

Eilidh remaining where she is, staring at Gabe exactly as she will in her pub one day and... holding her hand out-

YOUNG EILIDH

I' m Ei I i dh.

She helps him up. And, as she turns towards the caravan too, Gabe's eyes move from her to the departing Sam, walking through the door without looking back-

# 44 INT. BOTHY / BALFRON / STIRLINGSHIRE - DAY TWO

The Gabe of the present-day sitting there. He stands up, shakes his head to himself and goes to leave, until... someone PULLS at the boards across the still-sealed door. Gabe touches them on his side. After a moment, the pulling stops and FOOTSTEPS are heard moving round the bothy - STEP, STEP, STEP, past the boarded up windows - then silence for the longest of moments, before-

A woman enters tentatively. This is the girl from the tree farm over twenty years on - Samantha "SAM Tolmie, earlythirties. And there's a long pause as they stare at each other, struggling to comprehend the fact that this is actually happening, then... Gabe speaks guietly-

> GABE Wasn't sure you'd know what I meant.

SAM Not gonna forget, aml?

GABE It's a long time.

SAM When did you know it was me?

GABE Only two people ever called me that. And I knewit wasn't my mum..

Sam al most SOBS.

SAM Have... have you told the police?

GABE I wouldn't be here if I had.

SAM Could they trace my call?

GABE Only to the postcode. They know you live in Lochran Heights.

SAM

I don't.

SAM Can't drive. Just closed up the back of the van with himin it and ran...

GABE He's... by the side of a road?!

SAM (shakes head) Basement car park, Lochran Heights, block three.

Gabe closes his eyes. Shit. And there's a pause, then-

SAM What did the police say?

GABE They... they wanted your name.

SAM

Thankyou.

GABE They're gonna find out.

SAM

Why?

GABE There's a dead body in a building that's swarming with them

SAM

Yeah, but... they're only checking the apartments?

GABE Howlong d'you think it'll be before someone notices there's an abandoned van down there? Howlong before it starts to... ('SMELL'?)

Gabe pulls a pen from one pocket and a scrap of paper from the other and starts to copy down a number from his phone-

DI Anna Breck - 07700 900 810

SAM I can't do that. GABE He was a bastard. They'll see. SAM I can't go to prison, Gabo. GABE It's happened. You can't pretend it hasn't. You can put it off for a few hours, but... Another pause, then-

SAM Do you remember what you said? The last time...

Gabe nods.

# SAM

Do you?

Gabe nods again.

SAM It's not something Haz has ever said. But he's not a kid, is he?

GABE I didn't say it coz I was a kid. I said it coz I meant it.

Sam LAUGHS.

GABE

I di d.

She shakes her head, but-

GABE

Do.

SAM (quickly) Move the van for me then.

Gabe looks at her in astonishment-

GABE

SAM If Haz goes for a week, two, noone'll think it's any different. It'll give me time. To work out what to do. Please, Gabo. *Please*?

And there's a long pause, then... Gabe shakes his head-

GABE (of the number) If you're not gonna call her. I am I have to. You've got till morning. I'll take you anywhere you want before then.

#### YOUNG GABE Mum s al ways there.

Woodward nods, then... shows him her picture-

A tree, the branches filled with apples.

He looks at it, then shows her his-

A house with a series of lines scratched over the windows, the doors, the roof.

WOODWARD (of the lines) What are they?

Pause, then-

YOUNG GABE (matter-of-factly) The flames...

And Woodward looks at him, then-

# 48 <u>EXT. CHRI STMAS TREE FARM / BALFRON / STI RLI NGSHI RE - DAY TWO</u>

Gabe stops and turns round. Sam can still just about be seen, moving further and further away into the trees, before... disappearing entirely. And, as Gabe peers through the branches, his heart starts to BEAT faster and faster, then-

#### 49 <u>INT. CORRIDOR / CLINIC / STIRLING - DAY - MAY 1999</u>

The young Gabe heads back out into the corridor, eyes watery at the ordeal of the session, until-

#### WOODWARD

#### 50 <u>EXT. CHRISTMAS TREE FARM / BALFRON / STIRLINGSHIRE - DAY TWO</u>

The Gabe of the present starting to RUN, charging back through the trees, desperately looking for Sam until... he runs straight into her. And she goes to SCREAMin shock, but... Gabe puts his hand over her mouth, eyes flitting round, Sam's the same-

One of the farm workers appearing in the distance, AirPods in, oblivious to their presence, pruning with real care-

Gabe and Sam ducking down, then-

GABE (whispers) Do you know anyone who still lives there? Lochran Heights? From when you did?

SAM

Why?

GABE Do you?

Maybe...

GABE (nods) Where are the keys to the van?

SAM

SAM

Home.

GABE I'll go with you, wait outside while you get them, then... take you back to mine and come back after.

#### SAM

After what?

Long pause, then-

GABE

l've moved it.

And Sam stares at him in amazement...

# 52 <u>INT. CAR PARK / BLOCK THREE / LOCHRAN HEIGHTS / TRADESTON /</u> <u>GLASGOW - NIGHT TWO</u>

A door CLOSING behind him, leaving him in semi-darkness for a

## 54 <u>EXT. / INT. VAN / SI DE STREET / TRADESTON / GLASGOW - NI GHT</u> TWO

The constable speaks to the Range Rover driver. Gabe watches. The constable nods. The Range Rover DRIVES away-

Turning back onto the main road and disappearing into the night.

Gabe DRIVES up. The constable looks at him Out of view his hands are shaking, but his face remains composed. He smiles. And she nods, then... he PULLS AWAY too, almost doubling over with relief as he turns onto the main road as well, until-

SMASH! Another car slams into him from the side, SPINNING the van round, throwing Gabe forward, busting his nose, and causing one of the back doors to SPRING OPEN. He sits there for a long moment, stunned, before looking out-

Across the road, night-time revellers are looking back at him, and someone shouts-

PASSER- BY

Ambul ance! Someone call an ambul ance!

He looks out of the side window-

The constable is running towards him

He glances in the rear-view mirror-

Officers are running from that direction too.

He undoes his seatbelt, then goes to open his door, but... it's jammed, part-crushed on the outside. He tries it again. It won't budge. He scrambles across to the passenger door, opens that instead, and al most falls out. He looks at the back of the van - one door is about an inch ajar, the constable stopping in front of it.

DRI VER

Awh, shit, shit - l'm sorry...

The man from the car that slammed into him is approaching.

DI Anna Breck.

And there's a pause, then... Gabe reaches past the constable and shoves the rear door shut. It CLICKS into place, then he pulls his hood up, walks back round to the passenger side, climbs in, yanks that SHUT as well, slides across, then tries to re-start the engine.

> POLICE CONSTABLE (through the window) Excuse me sir?

Gabe tries again. Still nothing.

POLICE CONSTABLE (through the window) Excuse me, could you just...?

He tries one more time and... it LURCHES into life once more. And Gabe glances at the police constable for a second as she gestures for him to get back out, then-

He ACCELERATES away, causing the nearest officers to scatter, before-

SCREECHING round the corner.

### 55 <u>EXT. NARROW ALLEY / TRADESTON / GLASGOW - NI GHT TWO</u> <u>CONTI NUOUS</u>

The alley barely wide enough to take the van, Gabe's eyes flick from the walls at either side of him to his rear-view mirror-

Officers looking on, Breck in the middle.

57 EXT. LC K-UP G. AGES / PC\_LOKSHIELS / GLASGOW - NIGHT TWO He SKIEL in the salt alongs de a row of garages, before-Practice ly falling out on the parenger-side door, scrambling town is one of them are fumbling for a key. He tries the solution it, but his of the are shaking too much. The SIREN gets closer. And Gabe focuses, then... successfully UNLOCKS the door and WRENCHES it open, a wall of boxes piled at the other end.

# 58 <u>I NT. LOCK- UP GARAGES / POLLOKSHI ELDS / GLASGOW - NI GHT TWO</u> CONTI NUOUS

He DRIVES in - the SIREN louder than ever - jumping back out, pulling the door closed with a CLANK and standing there in silence. The SIREN gets closer and closer and closer, then... it passes, FADING into the distance again. And Gabe drops down - back against the door, broken.

- 59 <u>OM TTED</u>
- 60 <u>OM TTED</u>

# 61 <u>INT. COMMUNAL HALLWAY / GABE'S HOUSE / PARTICK / GLASGOW -</u> <u>NI GHT TWO</u>

An hour later, he opens the door to his room-

# 62 <u>I NT. GABE' S ROOM / GABE' S HOUSE / PARTI CK / GLASGOW - NI GHT</u> <u>TWO CONTI NUOUS</u>

There's no sign of anyone, until -

SAM ( O. S. )

SAM What? What? GABE Bloke slammed into me, think he was pi ssed. SAM That's not your fault... GABE Detective was there - Anna Breck one who's number I gave you... SAM Shit. GABE Staring, right at the van... SAM Did she see you? GABE From a bit away... SAM Did<sup>2</sup> she know it was you? GABE I don't know SAM How far? GABE Quite far, but... SAM OK, OK --GABE It's not OK! SAM

And, realising both the extent of Gabe's commitment and the potential repercussions for him. Sam now looks more horrified at what she's got him into than thankful for what he's done.

GABE They came after me. I got the van into Uncle Charlie's, but they might have got the reg...

SAM Uh... uh... that doesn't matter...

GABE

They'll go looking for your man!

SAM

Haz's name won't be on it. Changed his van as much as his phone. Part of the job...

GABE

They'll have a description of me.

SAM

Aye, and how much effort d'you think they'll put into finding you? Someone else drove into you.

GABE

I drove off!

SAM It makes you look dodgy, but they've no idea why. What are they gonna do?

GABE

What if she knew it was me?

Sam looks through the curtains-

SAM

She'd be back by now

Gabe blinks - "back"?

SAM Couple were here earlier, spoke to your housemates. They said you were out. I think she's rung too...

GABE I can't go in tomorrow...

SAM You've got to. It's not just her your phone's been going all night. Leigh Cubbin? Anthony someone? Your dad? You need to show things are alright...

GABE

# 68 <u>INT. DUTY MANAGER'S OFFICE / STRATHCLYDE AMBULANCE SERVICE</u> <u>ACC / HILLINGTON / GLASGOW - DAY THREE CONTINUOUS</u>

He enters.

BRECK Gabriel. Take a seat.

Gabe sits.

BRECK Would you mind talking me through the last few hours?

GABE What... what d'you mean?

Gabe can hardly breathe. And Breck leans in, then-

BRECK Your "friend" rings back and you... run off? Disappear?

She hasn't connected him to the crash. Gabe nods-

GABE

She turns round. Anthony stops. Gabe stops. Breck and Leigh both look back at Anthony and Gabe does the same-

# GABE (to Anthony) One minute. Give me one minute.

And there's a long pause, then... Anthony turns-

# ANTHONY

I'll catch you in a sec Leigh...

And, as Breck and Lennie continue on their way, exiting this time, Anthony glances at Gabe, before heading in another direction... Gabe following him, then-

74 <u>OM TTED</u>

# 75 <u>EXT. CHRI STMAS TREE FARM / BALFRON / STI RLI NGSHI RE - NI GHT -</u> JUNE 1999

The young Gabe runs through the trees again, following the

GABE (thankfully) Awh Anthony, Anthony --

ANTHONY On... on one condition.

Gabe stares at him And there's a pause, then-

ANTHONY I'll do that for you. I will. But... Only if you do something for me.

And, as Gabe gazes back at him, a phone starts to RING, off, SCRAMBLING heard, PANIC, TERROR-

79 <u>I NT. PHONE BOX / ENTRANCE / CHRI STMAS TREE FARM / BALFRON /</u> <u>STI RLI NGSHI RE - NI GHT - DECEMBER 1999</u>

The young Gabe appearing in the old phone box-

CALL HANDLER (O.S.) Ambul ance Emergency, is the patient breathing?

His shirt hangs from him in tatters, his whole body dirty-

CALL HANDLER (O.S.) Hello? Is the patient breathing please?

YOUNG GABE (O.S.) (sobbing) I.... I don't know, I....

And Gabe turns round slowly to look at something behind him, eyes widening in horror, then-

80 <u>EXT. ROOF TERRACE / STRATHCLYDE AMBULANCE SERVICE ACC /</u> HILLINGTON / GLASGOW - DAY THREE